

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

December 1, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

IAC Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Jeanne Mirro, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Jeanne Mirro, Earl Williams, Jon Ford, Dick Stifel

Members via teleconference: Judy Hess, Karen Ellerbrook

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Kristina Davis, Dennis Hardin

Note: Due to inclement weather, the meeting was delayed by 30 minutes

1. **Consent agenda.** Commissioner Mirro convened the meeting at 9:35 and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Commissioner Williams moved to adopt the consent agenda. Commissioner Stifel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. **Financial.**

a. FY 2011 Year-to-Date. IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing the Arts Commission budget for FY 2011, current through October 31, 2010.

b. FY 2012 – 2013 Budget. Mr. Ricci explained to the committee that the Governor's office has not released its proposed state budget for FY 2012 – 2013. Previously, the Governor's budget staff had informed IAC that the current IAC budget, including a 15% holdback, would become the baseline budget for FY 2012 – 2013. The Governor will present his budget proposal to the House Ways & Means Committee in early January 2011. IAC has submitted a "change package" which would restore some funding lost in the 15% reduction, but it has not yet been approved by the office of the Governor.

c. Preparing FY 2012 – 2013 budget alternatives. Mr. Stifel suggested that it would be prudent for the Executive Committee, along with IAC executive staff, to discuss alternative budget scenarios, in the event that the final FY 2012 – 2013 budget approved by the legislature contains reductions beyond those that are known already.

3. **Partnership Issues.** Mr. Ricci reported that the Arts Commission of Southwestern Indiana (ACSWI), the IAC Regional Arts Partner in Region 10, did not apply for a Technical Assistance Grant for 2011. Funding in the amount of \$6,000 was available to all Regional Arts Partners. Mr. Ricci considers that it is an expectation of all Regional

Arts Partners to avail themselves of all available public funding, for the public good in each region of the state, and that failure to apply for available funds demonstrates that regional services are not being provided. He remarked that ACSWI has a two-year history of difficulty in meeting RAP requirements, including below-expectation scores in two successive years of panel scoring in the RAP application process. Commissioner Ellerbrook, who is from Evansville in Region 10, elaborated on several organizational problems at ACSWI, including insufficient staff, lack of communication with board members, and turnover in the board. January 8, 2011, is the IAC deadline for organizations to submit letters of intent to apply for Regional Arts Partner status. Mr. Ricci asked the committee to consider what action, if any, should be taken regarding ACSWI's status as a Regional Arts Partner. Mr. Stifel moved that a letter be sent to all board members of ACSWI, a kind of mid-term review, explaining the shortcomings of the organization as a Regional Arts Partner, and that the letter be delivered prior to the January 8, 2011 deadline. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Ricci will draft the letter, detailing indicators and consequences of non-fulfillment of RAP contracts, and will submit the letter for the approval of the Executive Committee.

4. Strategic Planning. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing the latest version of the IAC Strategic Plan goals and objectives. These goals and objectives were gleaned from a series of five public meetings held around the state in October 2010. Also included are initial strategies that have been identified by IAC staff. The goals, objectives, and strategies will be discussed in the December 10 meeting of the full Commission, facilitated by Susan Zurbuchen of the Butler University faculty.

5. Muncie Cultural District Appeal. Mr. Ricci reported that the recent panel which met to review applications for Statewide Cultural District status recommended that none of the applications be approved. The Program Evaluation Committee, in its most recent meeting, considered a letter of appeal from Muncie mayor Sharon McShurley, asking IAC to reconsider the City of Muncie application. The PEC determined that the letter of appeal did not address the established criteria for appeal, and voted to recommend that the Commission uphold the findings of the independent panel. Commissioner Ford explained that the decision of the independent panel has not yet been approved by the Commission, and will not be considered until its December 10 quarterly business meeting. Therefore, any appeal by an applicant is premature, since applicants have not been officially notified of the decision of the Commission. If the City of Muncie does appeal after the December 10 vote, IAC Chair Mirro will appoint a review committee from among the Commission, to consider the appeal. No action is required at this time.

6. Old Business. Ms. Ellerbrook reminded the Committee of her desire for IAC to move toward advocating and securing educational funding for the arts, an issue which also came to the forefront during recent public meetings in connection with the IAC Strategic Plan. The committee agreed on the high importance of restoring arts education in the schools. Mr. Williams suggested communicating with the Governor's Roundtable and the Indiana School Board Association. This issue will be one of several

that will be discussed along with the Strategic Plan session during the Quarterly Business meeting on December 10.

7. **New Business.** Ms. Mirro reminded the committee that she is in her second and last year as Chair of the Commission, and that her second full term as Commissioner will expire in June 2011. A new slate of officers will be elected at the June 2011 meeting of the full Commission. She reported that Mr. Ford has consented to be nominated for Chair of the Commission, and that current Vice-Chair Karen Ellerbrook has volunteered to assist Mr. Ford during a transition that will see not only the retirement of Ms. Mirro from the Commission, but that of Mr. Stifel as well. Ms. Ellerbrook is expected to be re-appointed for her second full term as Commissioner in June 2011. Ms. Mirro expressed her appreciation to both Ms. Ellerbrook and Mr. Ford.

8. **Adjourn.** Mr. Williams moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stifel seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.